Equal Rights

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Times Wide World.

Woman Is Steel Salesman

Proof that the modern woman is invading branches of business usually devoted to the interests of man is Mrs. Jean Shassere of Chicago who sells steel for a livelihood and is credited with being the only woman in the United States who makes her living in this line. She took a course in steel fabrication at Perdue University to prepare herself for this work, and in a class of eighty-five she outranked the eighty-four men when she graduated. She is the mother of two grown children—a son and a daughter. Mrs. Shassere is here seen in front of her home.

Feminist Notes

The First Woman Mail Carrier

RUTH A. KENYON of Monroe, Nebraska, the first woman rural mail carrier to be appointed in the United States, has traveled 210,000 miles without being more than 30 miles from her home at any time. Mrs. Kenyon celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of her appointment on October 1.

There have been only about a dozen days in the twenty-five years, Mrs. Kenyon says, on which she was not able to deliver mail on her route in spite of blizzard, flood or storm. She made her first trip on October 1, 1902, with horse and buggy. In 1914 she bought an automobile.

Mrs. Kenyon has delivered more than 5,000,000 pieces of mail during the long service on the rural route out of Monroe. Few men in the country have served a longer period on a rural mail route, and none has a better record for efficiency and service, postal authorities say.

Mrs. Kenyon, looking back over the years, says there is no reason why more women should not be appointed rural mail carriers.

Spanish Women's Work for Freedom

LA VOZ DE LA MUJER, Feminist periodical of Madrid, is making a continuous fight for more freedom, more education, and the ballot for women in Spain. The magazine editorially urges women to arm themselves for the combat, to work unceasingly, systematically, and patiently for full rights. "We wish," the magazine says, "to be reasonable, intelligent, and good, and we can be all these things if our desires for them depend only upon ourselves." The editorial points out that Spanish women are already going to the universities, earning their living honorably, and learning executive and administrative work.

Melbourne Elects Women

THE municipal elections of Melbourne, Australia, recently returned two women councillors, Angela Booth and Ross Watt, both of whom had previously served on the Municipal Council. Five new women candidates were defeated.

The women's organizations have now planned a campaign of propaganda for the election of women to the Municipal Council so that more may be elected in the next race.

Equal Pay for Teachers

A RECENT decree equalizes the pay of men and women teachers in French secondary schools.

England's First All-Woman Jury

A JURY composed entirely of women was selected in Newcastle-upon-Tyne to hear a civil case recently.

Benzol Poisoning in Women

THE New York Bureau of Women in Industry, after making a study of the extent to which chronic benzol poisoning occurs among women workers, has made the following recommendations to eliminate this hazard of industry:

More thorough knowledge of the characteristics of benzol and a franker attitude on the part of employers toward the risk involved in its use; the use of benzol only in connection with efficient systems of local exhaust ventilation; thorough and persistent medical supervision of exposed workers, including complete blood examinations at monthly intervals; the use of substitutes for benzol wherever possible; and the revision of the wording of the Workmen's Compensation Law to cover cases of poisoning, whether the result of direct or indirect exposure.

The investigation showed that one out of every three women working directly with benzol suffered from benzol poisoning, which attacks the blood and the blood-forming organs. There seems to be no indication that benzol poisoning attacks women more readily than men.

It is noteworthy that the recommendations made by the New York Bureau of Women in Industry did not include any insistence upon legislation to prevent women from entering the industry, but simply urges that the conditions in the industry be improved so that workers, of either sex, will not run the risk of poisoning.

Commissioner Reappointed

BESSIE PARKER BRUEGGEMAN has been reappointed by President Coolidge to the Federal Employees' Compensation Commission. Mrs. Brueggeman was the first woman ever appointed to this commission, which passes on the claims of all Federal employees who have been injured in the course of their duties, and she is now its chairman.

Women Not Color Blind

OUT of more than 10,000 women taking color tests, in the course of applying for licenses to drive automobiles in Baltimore, Maryland, in the last two years, not one woman has failed, whereas 5 per cent. of the men fail to identify the colors. Physicians at Wilmer Institute, Johns Hopkins Hospital, say that 10 to 11 per cent. of men are color blind, and only 1 per cent. of women.

An Electric Welder

CATHERINE NELSON of Stelton, near New Brunswick, New Jersey, declares she is the only woman electric welder in the United States. A native of Denmark, she has been engaged in this work for twenty years, and supports her home and two children. Before coming to this country she learned millinery in Denmark, but forsook it upon her arrival here to become, first, a bench mechanic, and then a qualified machinist.

"I think my calling is a lot more desirable than that of the milliner. At least, it is more remunerative," said Mrs. Nelson.

Women Excluded

A LAW recently promulgated in Ecuador excludes women from the lead painting industry. "Such protective legislation is particularly regrettable in tropical countries, where there is always a strong tendency to exclude women from pleasant or remunerative work," comments the *Catholic Citizen,* official organ of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance. This great organization of Catholic women in England stands always for Equal Rights in every field, and is one of the leading organizations in England opposing labor legislation based upon the sex of the worker rather than on the nature of the work.

For Women's Rights in Spain

BLANCHE DE LOS RIOS, a Spanish writer, is interpolating the Spanish Government for an equalization of the status of women under the civil and penal laws of her country.

According to the present law a husband administers his wife's property from the day of the wedding, except when an express declaration to the contrary is specifically included in the marriage contract, and this, of course, implies the husband's knowledge and consent. A wife is not permitted to be a property holder, divorce is non-existent, and the present penal code imposes only a small penalty on a husband murdering his wife whom he has surprised in misconduct.

Señora de los Rios feels that modification of these depressing laws for women is even more important than the vote, which theoretically was given to Spanish women but was not put into effect owing to the general suspension of electoral rights four years ago. These changes are entirely apart from other and even more positive advantages which women hope to demand later.

A Parting Message

MRS. OLIVER H. P. BELMONT, president of the National Woman's Party, sailed last week on the Aquitania for France. Before boarding the steamer she gave out the following statement at her suite in The Savoy-Plaza, New York City:

"Publication by the World of the suppressed half of the League of Nation's "Report on the Traffic in Women," will convince women of imagination, the world over, of the urgent need to improve the social and economic status of women.

"This traffic will be most speedily abolished only in proportion as women demand and receive greater recognition in all fields of life. It is significant and not accidental, that the countries where the position of women is the most backward furnish the most sex slaves. Countries which hold the abilities of women so cheap will continue to dishonor their own women and all womanhood by this revolting traffic.

"Moral indignation will do no good. Action is needed to abolish this crime against civilization.

"I trust all women * * * mothers, sisters, wives * * * will voice their protest to demand more authority in the State, not only nationally, but internationally. A League of Nations made up officially and authoritatively of women as well as men would not have dared to refuse to publish their findings.

"I hope women will soon understand the urgent need of their voice in all international bodies. Never was a better example shown us of the suspicious way in which women should regard what men choose to call their 'protection' of women. Protection in this sense means exploitation. Women must take power and quickly in their own hands to protect themselves. In no other way will they be raised to the dignity and status of free human beings. In no other way can sex slavery be abolished. Women themselves will have to do it. Women's interests are put in danger every time women trust to this kind of protection. For the chivalrous, protecting man exploits the weakest and most helpless members of our sex—the minors, the ignorant, the lonely ones without families.

"No enlightened citizen, however, need wait for the time when women shall have full power over their lives. In the meantime outraged opinion of men and women can voice its protest.

"Where is the voice of protest from enlightened organized public opinion throughout the world represented by all the organizations seeking a more humane and just world; every religious denomination; every political faith; every women's organization—where is the cry of this voice against the suppression of the League's report and against their inaction in dealing with this evil? Shall we wait in vain for this protest?

"Such an organized demand sent to the League of Nations would force action.

"The National Woman's Party will not cease its activities until equal authority between men and women exists throughout the world. Then and then only will we see sex slavery abolished."

One Woman Elected

By Emma Wold

AT the October elections in Norway, only one woman was a successful candidate for the Storting, Norway's parliament of 150 members. Helge Karlsen, candidate of the Labor Party in Oslo, was elected.

Somewhat satirically, leading women of Norway exclaim, "One woman elected! Well, it is good that 149 gentlemen of the Storting may hear one woman speaking for the homes!" They count themselves fortunate, however, that since there is only one woman representative for the next three years in the national legislative body, she is a "housewife" experienced in political activity through having participated in the city government of Norway's capital and in former sessions of the Storting.

Fru Karlsen, who is described as an unusually able speaker, quick and pointed in debate, announces that she will work for the program of her political party the chief concerns of which are the questions of the tariff, the cost of food-stuffs, housing, mothers' pensions, old-age insurance, and access to land, all matters in which women are as vitally concerned as men.

There has been not a little forthright protest in the columns of *Norges Kvinder*, the outstanding woman's semi-weekly of Norway, against the shabby behavior of every political party in placing women candidates so low on the party lists that they are defeated even before election day. Fru Karlsen had forth place on the list of the Labor Party for Oslo, and was the only woman candidate of whose election any reasonable hope might be entertained.

An analysis of the lists of the four or five political parties shows that, however radically the parties may differ in principles and purposes, they were all of one accord in giving women a place as low as fifth and usually below the seventh, unless the party had no hope of electing any candidate. Thus Betsy Kjelsberg, probably Norway's best-known woman, a member of the International Advisory Council of the National Woman's Party, was Number 2 on the list of her party in Oslo, but it is long since that party has elected any representative to the Storting. Sixty-four women candidates were thus put up in hopeless places, sixty-four women among more than two thousand men, and, as can be seen from the lists, they were women well-known throughout Norway, well-trained by years of community and national work, but placed on the lists below the names of men wholly unknown, in places where they could not be elected. "Used as decoys! As showbread!" are the bitter expressions of those women who feel that the situation has become intolerable.

This situation—a repetition of earlier experience—is not due to indifference or lack of activity on the part of women themselves. The women's organizations of Oslo, for instance, submitted a resolution to the governing committees of the two leading parties of that city earnestly urging that at the nominations they should place one woman so high on their lists that she could not fail of election to the Storting. This petition was ignored.

WOMEN leaders were driven to the point of suggesting that women voters should organize a strike against voting and against accepting any nomination to a place so low on the list that defeat was inevitable. Others have urged that women hereafter put a woman's list in the field. Fru Kjelsberg expressed this view with moderation in reply to a questionnaire sent to women candidates, when she said, "I have been against a separate woman's party for the reason that men and women should work together for the community welfare and advance. In these both sexes are necessarily interested. But I am no longer so convinced on this subject. When I see how the parties have treated women in the nomination of candidates for the Storting, the question unavoidably arises whether the time is not here for the formation of a separate woman's party."

Since women have had the vote in Norway for twenty years, during which time two political parties have given them two representatives in the Storting and the other parties none at all, they are wondering whether they can ever get anything through the regular parties.

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

Annual Dues	$10.00
Associate Members	$1.00
Subscribing Members	$3.00
Founders	$100.00
Life Members	$1,000.00
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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

Senate Joint Resolution Number 11.
House Joint Resolution Number 81.

Introduced in the Senate, December 8, 1925, by Senator Charles E. Curtis.
Introduced in the House of Representatives, December 16, 1925, by Representative D. R. Anthony.

Anyhow, They Get Increased Salaries

UNDER the curious headline, "Married Teachers Hindering Pay Rise," the following news story appeared in the *Evening Public Ledger* of Philadelphia on November 30:

"Philadelphia school teachers are being peculiarly affected by the increased importance of women in business life and the general trend of modern society toward economic equality between men and women. This was strikingly brought out in conferences between the leaders of the 8,000 teachers in the city and members of the Board of Education on the question of higher salaries.

"No provision for adding to the maximum salaries of Philadelphia's teachers was made in the annual budget of the School Board, which stated that no funds were available for such increases.

"More than 1,200 women teachers are married. This number has been steadily increasing. Since virtually all married teachers have been on the payroll for years, most of them are drawing maximum salaries.

"In former times teachers (of course, this refers to women only—Ed.) withdrew from service when they married, leaving vacancies to be filled by younger women at minimum salaries. Under present conditions, however, they are continuing in the teaching profession.

"School officials intimate that one of the reasons no funds are available for further salary raises is that the payroll is swelled by this number of married women teachers who are drawing maximum salaries. In 1928 the annual payroll will be $18,036,430, in comparison with $16,895,004 this year.

"At the same time, it was pointed out, the marked increase is not due solely to the large number of married teachers. Three hundred and fifty-one teachers have been added and many have been moved up to higher increments within the one-year period."

We fail to see the logic. Perhaps the maximum salaries are not being increased, but the average salary of women teachers is being increased and this at least is an advantage.

We are glad to see them earn their increases in pay as a result of the test of time. But really it is most difficult to know just what to do. First they tell us that women are paid less than men because they "marry-and-quit." They are not permanent employees, we are told, and consequently are not as valuable as those who stay in the organization for life. But when women marry and keep on, then there is another complaint.

The complaint against married women in the schools of the District of Columbia, being voiced by various Citizens' Associations, and in letters to the newspapers written by disgruntled people, is based on the allegation that the tendency of women to continue teaching after marriage prevents younger women from getting jobs when they are graduated from the normal schools.

But are not experienced teachers with high efficiency ratings better for the children of the District of Columbia—and the children everywhere?

"A Married Woman's Paper"

ON November 16 the Guard Trust Company of Philadelphia wrote the following letter to a member of the National Woman's Party: "We recently sold for your account 100 shares of Bethlehem Steel Corporation common stock. Under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange stock registered in the name of a woman is not considered a good delivery. Consequently our brokers have charged us $2 for the additional transfer tax necessary to complete this transaction. Accordingly, we have today charged your deposit account $2 in payment for this tax."

We have often heard from various sources that such charges are made in the case of married women—even widows—on the basis of "the danger of a married woman's paper." That is, stock exchanges fear that under the laws of the State in which a woman resides, a married woman may not have the right to make transfers of stock without her husband's consent.

It was bad enough and wrong enough for this to be the rule with married women, but it seems inexcusable that the rule should prevail in the case of widows or unmarried women who under the law have control of their own property.

Again we present to our readers an example of the fact that the rule of woman's alleged frailty does not work both ways. The economic world pays women less, and yet makes women pay more.

Senator Norris Receives Deputation

EVERY effort to guarantee a full and fair hearing for the Equal Rights Amendment before the Senate Judiciary Committee was promised by Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, within an hour after the Seventieth Congress convened.

A deputation of members and officers of the National Woman's Party appeared before Senator Norris in his office on December 5, and presented arguments for the amendment, which has been introduced by Senator Charles Curtis of Kansas. The necessity of writing the principle of Equal Rights into the Constitution of the United States in order to guarantee permanence, the demand of working women for industrial equality, and the fundamental justice of Equal Rights between men and women were emphasized by Woman's Party officers, who spoke informally with Senator Norris.

Senator Norris, who was always a friend and supporter of the Woman Suffrage Amendment, after hearing the arguments for the proposed amendment, in a friendly informal manner said: "I shall do everything I can to see that you get a full and fair hearing on the Equal Rights Amendment."

Maud Younger, Congressional Chairman of the Woman's Party, headed the delegation and introduced Jane Norman Smith, chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party; Edith Houghton Hooker of Baltimore, member of the National Council and editor of Equal Rights; and Burnita Shelton Matthews, head of the Legal Research Department.

In opening the discussion, Mrs. Matthews pointed out the many discriminations which exist against women in the laws and said that incorporating the principle of equality in the United States Constitution is the only way of permanently guaranteeing Equal Rights to women throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction. "A national amendment," she said, "makes permanent, insofar as anything can be permanently guaranteed by law, that men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout our country."

MRS. SMITH, chairman of the National Council, emphasized the industrial side of the Equal Rights campaign and said that the Equal Rights Amendment when passed would make it impossible for protective legislation applying to women and not to men to be forced upon women in the future. She said, "I would like to point out to you that when we speak of an 8-hour law for women it is a very different thing from the 8-hour day for men. An 8-hour law for women provides that the women employed shall work eight hours and eight hours only. There is no provision about receiving extra pay in case of working overtime, for the law specifically forbids that she do this.

"The man who has won an 8-hour day has won this through his union and not through legislation. He has secured for himself the right to work overtime in an emergency, for overtime pay. He is free to bargain with his employer. It is plainly to be seen that the woman who cannot do this under an 8-hour law for women only, is less desirable to her employer and is at a great disadvantage in the economic world.

"Our industrial Council in New York State has asked me to come to Washington to present this point of view to you. They know that if our Equal Rights Amendment passes it will do more than any other single thing to guarantee to women an equal chance with men. It will mean that no further sex discrimination can be written into the law with regard to women."

MRS. HOOKER made the last presentation in a very convincing and telling speech. She said:

"Mr. Chairman, I bring to you only one plea for the Equal Rights Amendment, and that is the plea of justice. We believe you are one of the few people who really understands the meaning of that word. Our country was founded on the principle of Equal Rights. For over a century it has prospered. For a long time women were not even permitted the right of suffrage in this great democracy. This right they have now won, but in no other respect do they have Equal Rights with men.

"I believe there is one star in the firmament by which our human crafts can sail. That star, which should guide us, is justice. If we really stand for government of the people and by the people and for the people, if we really stand for Equal Rights for all, and special privileges for none, it is time that we incorporated in our Constitution the Equal Rights Amendment."

Immediately after the deputation the members returned to the National Woman's Party Headquarters on Capitol Hill and after luncheon served in the drawing rooms heard speeches by Florence Bayard Hilles of Wilmington, Delaware; Anita Pollitzer of Charleston, South Carolina, vice-chairman of the National Woman's Party; Edith Houghton Hooker, and Jane Norman Smith. Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley presided, with her characteristic charm, wit, and graciousness. Luncheon was served for 104.

Cuban Lawyer Visits Headquarters

DR. FLORA DIAZ DE PARREDO, Cuban lawyer, was a guest at National Headquarters of the National Woman's Party at dinner on December 10.

Dr. Parredo explained the status of the suffrage movement in Cuba, and the situation there bears close resemblance to that which gave rise in the United States to the organization of the National Woman's Party.

The Club Femenino, which is the leading suffrage society in Cuba, had been working for an amendment to the Cuban Constitution granting the suffrage to women. Instead, the Congress passed an "enabling act" which was widely heralded as a woman suffrage act. But it did not grant suffrage to Cuban women. It simply gave the Congress the authority to enact a law enfranchising them when and if it sees fit. As yet, according to Dr. Parredo, the Cuban Congress has not seen fit.

THE Club Femenino, she says, accepted this palliative smilingly. But many of the most important leaders of the suffrage movement in Havana resigned, insisting that the club, if it really meant to achieve suffrage, should protest against what they considered an attempt to deceive women into thinking that they would soon be enfranchised.

As yet, however, these resigning members have not organized a militant organization to bring about the suffrage amendment they want. Being a lawyer, Dr. Parredo realizes the importance of having the fundamental right of suffrage written into the Constitution. So do the leading women of Cuba, she says.

The women of the South and Central American countries are deeply interested, she reports, in the Pan-American Congress to be held in Havana in January, to which the United States is sending

such distinguished delegates as Secretary of State Frank B. Kellogg, Charles Evans Hughes, and Ambassador Dwight Morrow. President Coolidge will attend the Congress.

The last meeting of the Congress, two years ago in Chile, voted to admit women to the Congress, but Dr. Parredo as yet knows of no women appointed as delegates, despite the fact that the whole question of Women's civil rights is to be before the Congress.

MANY of the proposals to be discussed were first put forward at the International Feminist Congress at Buenos Aires in 1910, the Pan-American Conferences of Women at Baltimore in 1922 and in Washington in 1925, and at the Inter-American Congress of Women at Panama in June, 1926.

Speaking generally, married women in South American countries are under the complete control of their husbands. The woman owes obedience to her husband, must live with him and follow him wherever he may locate his residence. She also assumes the nationality of her husband and, excepting in Argentina, Cuba, Peru, and the five Central American countries, she cannot engage in commerce, industry, or a profession, or appear in court, without permission of her husband.

An unmarried woman who has reached her majority, has, however, the same civil capacity as a man, but with certain limitations. For example, the adult unmarried woman cannot act as an executrix, trustee, member of a family council, or appear as a witness to wills.

Omitting Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, and Cuba, the possessions of the married woman are answerable for the debts of her husband, and in all Latin countries the debts of the man, including those contracted before marriage, are shared jointly by himself and his wife.

The father exercises parental authority during the marriage, directs the education of the children, is permitted to use his own methods of punishing them for wrong-doing and enjoys the income from their personal property. Only in Guatemala and Honduras do the laws require that he consult with the mother in matters relating to the children.

ADVANCE reports received at the Pan-American Union in Washinton indicate that the discussion may revolve about the civil rights law adopted in Argentina on August 25, 1925. This statute gives to unmarried, divorced, or widowed women the same civil rights as those enjoyed by men of legal age. Married women, under Argentine law, do not need the authorization of their husbands or of the authorities to engage in business, industry, or a profession, to dispose of their income, or to dispose of property acquired before marriage.

MARRIED women are also permitted to appear in court without special authorization and have complete authority over the actions and possessions of children they may have had by former marriage. The property belonging to either the husband or the wife is not answerable for the payment of debts contracted by the other, except when the debts were contracted for the maintenance of the home, education of the children, or for the preservation of the property held jointly by both.

While the resolutions adopted by the Pan-American Congress have no legal force in the countries of the Americas, they are very important in influencing the course of legislation, particularly in South and Central America, Dr. Parredo says.

Celebration of Lucretia Mott's Birthday

A NATION-WIDE celebration of the anniversary of the birth of Lucretia Mott was decided upon by the last meeting of the National Council of the National Woman's Party.

Lucretia Coffin was born on January 3, 1793, on the little Island of Nantucket—an island named for a woman and dominated in both religion and commerce by a woman. Eighty-five years before Lucretia Coffin was born there, Mary Starbuck, "The Great Merchant," had converted the island to the Quaker religion, and had led the island's development.

When she was 11 years old, Lucretia's family moved to Boston. At the age of 15 she was teaching school in Dutchess County, New York. When she was 18, she married James Mott according to the simple Quaker ceremony, and they lived happily together for more than half a century. Lucretia Mott should have been the evidence to those early anti-suffragists that the home would not be neglected when women entered politics, for Mrs. Mott was a perfect housekeeper and an irreproachable mother. Besides, she was beautiful in a most feminine way. The difference between her and the others was that she spent her spare time in reading and in working for suffrage and the abolition of slavery, instead of in gaiety or embroidery.

When she was 25, a wife, housekeeper, and mother, she became a Quaker preacher, later affiliating with the "Hicksite" or "Unitarian Quakers." She was among the sixty-two people who on December 3, 1833, formed the American Anti-Slavery Society. Lucretia Mott even antedated William Lloyd Garrison in her advocacy of freedom for the negro.

It was when she went to England to participate in the World's Anti-Slavery Convention that she first began to realize the slavery which women suffered. When women were denied admission to that convention, Lucretia Mott returned to America and, with a few others, called that memorable Woman's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls in 1848, when the first organized demand for Equal Rights was made.

THROUGHOUT her life, Lucretia Mott gentle though she was, never failed to take every opportunity to protest against the humiliation of women, even when the humiliations were clothed in sacrosanctness. Although she was a preacher, she refused to bow her head in the New York State Capitol when the chaplain spoke in his prayer of woman as a secondary creature, declaring, "I cannot bow my head to such absurdities."

Mrs. Mott was made permanent president of the National Woman's Rights Convention at Syracuse in 1852, and president of the Washington National Convention in 1869.

She died at her home near Philadelphia on November 11, 1880, at the age of 87. In her lifetime she had lived to see her demands for freedom and civil and political rights for the negro incorporated into the Constitution of the United States. It was forty years after she died before women were enfranchised by an amendment to the Constitution, and it still remains for the amendment named for her, guaranteeing Equal Rights to men and women throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction to be written into the fundamental law of her country.

The January 1 meeting of the Woman's Party in Washington will be devoted to a memorial to Lucretia Mott. Representatives will go from that meeting to another meeting in her memory in Wilmington, Delaware, on the following day. Finally, on the one hundred and thirty-fifth anniversary of her birth, a memorial meeting will be held in Philadelphia, where she lived for many years, and where she was buried, in Fairhill, the Friends' Cemetery, at Germantown Avenue and Cambria Street.

Various State branches of the Woman's Party are planning memorial meetings on the same day throughout the country.

Press Comment

Intensive Fight for Women's Rights Aim in Winter Session.

By Ruth Finney.
The Washington Daily News, November 24, 1927.

THE National Woman's Party is preparing this winter for the most active campaign it has yet waged in behalf of economic equality.

Rep. Clarence J. McLeod (R., Mich.) will lead the fight for passage in the House of the Woman's Party amendment to the Constitution. He is planning an aggressive battle and believes the amendment should be sent to the States for ratification next year, if possible.

Senator Curtis (Kansas), Republican floor leader, will introduce the bill in the Senate.

The Woman's Party amendment reads: "Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

The effect of this would be to abolish all discriminations against women now existing in property laws, marriage and divorce laws, and laws affecting the status of a married woman, and making all apply equally to men and women. It would extend so-called protective legislation, limiting hours of women's work or fixing minimum wages to men as well as to women.

Ruling Increases Badger Women's Rights

Wisconsin State Journal, December 7, 1927.

ADDITIONAL rights were granted to women by the Supreme Court Tuesday, when it was held that a man and his wife might enter into partnership. For years it has been the public policy of the State to deny the right of partnership between husband and wife, but under the equal rights law passed in 1922, the court finds that additional privileges have been granted to women which abogates the former policy.

In 1921 the legislature passed a law providing that women shall have the same rights and privileges under the law as men in the exercises of suffrage, freedom of contract, choice of residence for voting purposes, jury service, holding office, holding and conveying property, care and custody of children, and in all other respects.

"It is considered that the logic of those decisions requires us now to hold that a married woman may contract as a femme sole might do and consequently a married woman may enter into a contract of partnership with her husband," says Justice Rosenberry.

The decision that a woman might enter into partnership with her husband was given in the case of Nanie Starks against John Kuss. The litigation arose in Forest County.

Shortly after the passage of the Equal Rights law, the question arose as to whether a married woman could be held liable on a note in her own property when she signed the note with her husband. In that case, the court held liability. Later questions arose as to whether a married woman might sue her husband as the result of injuries received in an accident. The court held that the Equal Rights law applied and that married women had the right to sue their husbands.

Further interpretation of the Equal Rights law is likely to come before the Supreme Court next June. Litigation has been started to determine whether women may be employed in the legislature. There is a law in the statute books which provides that only male help may be employed in the legislature. The attorney general has held that women cannot be employed, and a case involving this question is soon to be presented to the Supreme Court.

News from the Field

Senator Felton Visits Senate

REBECCA LATTIMORE FELTON, honorary chairman of the Political Council of the National Woman's Party, and the only woman ever to be a member of the United States Senate, was an honored guest of the Senate on December 7. Robert Talley described her visit as follows in the Washington *Daily News* of December 8:

"A gray-haired little woman wearing silver-rimmed glasses and a hat that must have been fashionable back in the late nineties, walked haltingly—as old ladies do—up to the door of the House of Representatives yesterday afternoon.

" 'You can't go in; you'll have to go up to the visitors' gallery,' a doorkeeper told her. 'Only members of Congress and former members are allowed on the floor.'

" 'Then I'll go over to the Senate side,' the visitor replied, as she turned toward the opposite wing of the Capitol.

"Over there the Senate doors were opened to her immediately, for she was recognized as Mrs. Rebecca Lattimore Felton of Cartersville, Georgia, the only woman who ever served in the United States Senate.

"Senators crowded around courteously to greet her as she dropped wearily into a seat—the same seat she occupied for one momentous day in November, 1923, with full authority as a United States Senator.

"Mrs. Felton, even then past 80, was given a one-day appointment by Georgia's Governor following the death of Senator Tom Watson. Senator Walter F. George, still serving, was given the regular appointment after Mrs. Felton had had her one day of glory.

" 'This is the first time I've been in Washington since we dedicated a Georgia statue in Statuary Hall two years ago,' ex-Senator Felton said. 'I've been living down in Cartersville, still writing for the same paper—the *Tri-Weekly News*—for which I have written for 29 years.'

"Asked how she would vote on the effort to oust Senators-elect Smith and Vare if she were a member of the Senate today, Mrs. Felton said she would follow Senator Borah's recommendation in seating them first and investigating them afterward.

" 'We shouldn't slap a State in the face by refusing admittance to a man it sends here,' said Mrs. Felton, unconsciously lapsing into the Senatorial pronoun. 'We should admit him on his credentials and then if we find him unworthy we should kick him out.'

"Proving that, even among women, 'once a Senator, always a Senator.' "

Ask Equal Dower Rights

THE New York Branch of the National Woman's Party is seeking to have dower and courtesy rights equalized in New York. The New York *Times* on December 4 reported the work of the Woman's Party toward this end as follows:

"On the theory that the ordinary housework a wife does in the home has an economic value great enough to entitle her to the same right to her husband's property as he now has to hers, Mrs. Jane Norman Smith of the National Woman's Party pleaded yesterday before the State Commission on Defects in the Law of Estates for a sweeping revision of the present statute, which, she says, discriminates against women.

"Mrs. Smith asked the commission to recommend changes of the present law so that either the dower will be applied to the husband or so that a husband and wife will have an equal and absolute interest which neither might will away nor

otherwise convey without the other's consent.

"In her plea before the commission Mrs. Smith mentioned laws of other States which tend to equalize the dower and courtesy rights and at the same time provide that the interest of either spouse cannot be defeated either by will or deed.

" 'According to a recent report of the Bureau of Economic Research,' she said, '95 per cent. of American wives do their own housework, and their labor and services in the home adds $18,000,000,000 to the annual income of the country. The report further states that the average housekeeper does $1,751.43 worth of work a year, which a little more than equals the average town man's pay.

" 'In view of these facts,' she continued, 'it is the opinion of our organization that either the existing law should be amended by making dower apply to the husbands, as was proposed in the Mastick-Hofstadter bills of 1926—each to have a one-half interest in the estate of the other, and neither spouse to have the right to convey separately or will away the share of the other.'

"George Gordon Battle, attorney for the women's organization, spoke on the legal phases of Mrs. Smith's statement.

"The following members of the commission were present: Assemblyman Edmund B. Jenks of Whitney Point, vice-chairman; Assemblymen Herbert B. Shonk and Maurice Bloch, Senators Homer E. A. Dick, Leonard R. Lipowicz and Thomas I. Sheridan, Surrogates Foley, Slater, of Westchester County; Hart of Buffalo, and Henry R. Chittick, John G. Saxe and Cornelius W. McDougald, attorneys, and Carlos Alden, dean of the Law School of the University of Buffalo."

Visits Headquarters

ANNA J. BARNES, a member of the National Woman's Party from Overbrook, Pennsylvania, was a visitor at National Headquarters of the Woman's Party on Thanksgiving Day.

Deputation Waits Upon Senator Wagner

A DEPUTATION of members of the Woman's Party, led by Mrs. Frances G. Roberts, called upon Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York on December 2 to ask his support of the Equal Rights Amendment. Mrs. Robert, who as a Democratic election district captain worked in Senator Wagner's campaign when running for judge, explained to him the reason why wage-earning women believe the amendment will be of great advantage to them, and asked him to study the literature which she left with him. Among others who accompanied Mrs. Roberts were Mrs. Mathilde Calhoun, Mrs. Theresa Shiverts, Mrs. Nancy Thompson, and Mrs. Florence Wray.

Woman Appointed Commissioner

ELSIE A. CANNON of Washington has been appointed commissioner of the United States Court of Claims.

Two Million Dollar Fund

Treasurer's Report

EMMA WOLD, *Treasurer*
NETTIE TRAIL: *C. P. A., Auditor.*

RECEIPTS collected by National Headquarters, December 7, 1912, to November 1, 1927, $1,416,931.81.

Contributions, membership and other receipts, November 1, 1927, to November 16, 1927:

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, N. Y.	$100.00
Mrs. Stephen Pell, N. Y.	50.00
New York State Branch	50.00
Mrs. Bertha Fitzpatrick, Calif.	1.00
Mrs. Frank Norris, Fla.	1.00
Mrs. M. H. L. Wilmarth, D. C.	1.00
Edith Houghton Hooker, Md.	10.00
Per Santa Barbara, California, Branch:	
(Santa Barbara, Calif., Branch retaining one-half)	
Mrs. Mark Bradley	.50
Miss Carrie E. Lee	.50
Mrs. M. A. Levy	.50
Mrs. J. Whittemore	.50
Per Minnesota Branch	1.00
Mrs. John Treadwell, Conn.	50.00
Per New Jersey Branch:	
(New Jersey Branch retaining three-fourths)	
Miss Jane Roberts	.25
Miss Kate Roberts	.25
Mrs. Edna A. Evans, N. C.	1.00
Per New York City Committee:	
(New York City Committee retaining dues in excess of 25 cents)	
Mrs. J. Delaney	.25
Mrs. E. Carey	.25
Mrs. A. Lyles	.25
Miss M. Casazza	.25
Miss Meade	.25
Miss Marshall	.25
Mrs. A. Berry	.25
Mrs. S. Nelson	.25
Mrs. A. Marshall	.25
Miss M. McDonough	.25
Mrs. Body	.25
Miss Kinsman	.25
Miss E. D. Bruene	.25
Miss Hammill	.25
Mrs. N. C. Thompson	.25
Miss M. Farmer	.25
Mrs. Anna Segal	.25
Mrs. M. E. Smith	.25
Miss Viola Vail	.25
Miss K. A. Blacker	.25
Miss S. Newman	.25
Mrs. Alma Steele	.25
Miss M. Smith	.25
Mrs. C. Hoffman	.25
Miss A. Dewarden	.25
Mrs. A. Brien	.25
Miss Susan Price	.25
Miss D. Moskowitz	.25
Mrs. M. Griffith	.25
Miss M. Darbee	.25
Miss R. Vilbig	.25
Miss B. Lipschetz	.25
Miss M. Medwinter	.25
Miss Kathryn Miller	.25
Miss A. Bullowa	.25
Miss G. Bullowa	.25
Mrs. C. Hunt	.25
Mrs. L. A. Jaffee	.25
Mrs. Elinor Hays Buckley, N. Y.	74.00
Mary Dean Powell, D. C.	15.00
Mrs. Annie B. Fowler, Pa.	19.00
Mrs. Helen H. Gow, Pa.	5.00
Esther McLaughlin, N. Y.	1.00
Laura Berrien, Ga.	50.00
Burnita Shelton Matthews, Miss.	20.00
Emmy Lou Harrison, D. C.	10.00
Mrs. H. O. Havemeyer, N. Y.	200.00
Mrs. James Algeo, R. I.	25.00
Mrs. K. C. Schuyler, Colo.	25.00
Lavinia Dock, Pa.	5.00
Mrs. William Kent, Calif.	100.00
Sale of leaflets	1.00
Telephone receipts	1.40
Refunds	5.00
Dividend from endowment fund	8.00
Rent of rooms at Headquarters	653.60
Total receipts, November 1 to 16, 1927	$1,495.00
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to November 16, 1927	$1,418,426.81

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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